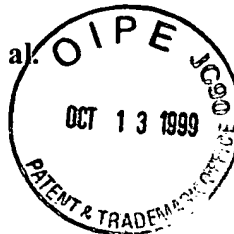


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Kousuke SUZUKI, et al.**

Serial No.: **09/045,118**

Filed: **March 20, 1998**



TECH CENTER 2700

OCT 14, 1999

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Group Art Unit:2823

Examiner: **N. Berezny**

For: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING A SELF-ALIGNED CONTACT HOLE**

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

OCT 15 1999

October 13, 1999

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated September 28, 1999.

In the Action, restriction is required between the following groups:

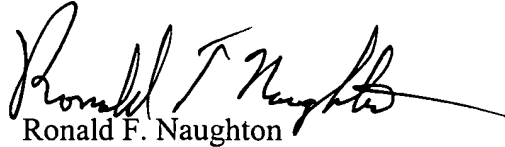
- (I) Claims 1-27, drawn to a method of making a semiconductor device, classified in class 438, subclass 303; or
- (II) Claims 28-41, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 288+.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group II, claims 28-41, for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 35 U.S.C. § 121 are retained.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
McLELAND & NAUGHTON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald F. Naughton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ronald F. Naughton
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 24,616

Atty. Docket No. **980268**
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